

Application No. : 10/722,206.
Filed : November 24, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1-50 were pending in the application. By this paper, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-45 and 48-50 without prejudice, and added new Claims 51-117. Accordingly, Claims 46, 47, 51-117 are presented for examination herein.

Allowable Subject Matter and New Claims:

Per page 18 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 46 and 47 stand allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this allowance.

Also per page 18 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 5, 13, 15-17, 19, 20, 34, 35, 37-40, 42-45 and 50 were objected-to while containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant has herein added new Claims 51-117, as follows.

New Claim 51 corresponds generally to objected-to Claim 5, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

New Claim 57 corresponds generally to objected-to Claim 13, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

New Claims 61 and 93 correspond generally to objected-to Claim 15, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

New Claims 69 and 101 correspond generally to objected-to Claim 34, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

New Claims 71 and 103 correspond generally to objected-to Claim 37, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

New Claim 75 corresponds generally to objected-to Claim 42, and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

No new matter has been added in any of the foregoing new claims.

Additionally, Applicant has herein added new dependent Claims 52-56, 58-60, 62-68, 70, 72-74, 76-78, 80-90, 92, 94-100, 102, and 104-117. These new dependent claims largely correspond generally to previously presented dependent claims. None of these new dependent claims introduces new matter.

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§102 Rejections

Claims 1-45 and 48-50 have been cancelled without prejudice by this paper, so the rejections under §102 are rendered moot.

§103 Rejections

Claims 1-45 and 48-50 have been cancelled without prejudice by this paper, so the rejections under §103 are rendered moot.

Amendments to the Specification

By this paper, Applicant has amended the specification to correct an error in an acronym (“MSO”). No new matter is added by way of these amendments.

Other Remarks

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims as presented herein are in condition for allowance, and requests that the case be passed to allowance at the earliest opportunity.

Applicant hereby specifically reserves the right to prosecute claims of different or broader scope in a continuation or divisional application.

Applicant notes that any claim cancellations or additions made herein are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention and responding to the aforementioned restriction election, and not for purposes of overcoming art or for patentability. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant's position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, based on such cancellations or additions.

Furthermore, any remarks made with respect to a given claim or claims are limited solely to such claim or claims.

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments which may be resolved over the telephone, he is requested to call the undersigned at (858) 675-1670.

Respectfully submitted,

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